

Remarks

Amendment to the Specification

The amendment to the Background of the Invention clarifies that electrical heating and flowing heated fluid (which includes hot water) are known methods of heating a towel dryer surface above room temperature. For example, US Patents 3,457,389 and 4,117,309 disclose towel dryers with electrical heating.

Entry of the amendment to the specification is respectfully requested.

Objection to Claim 9

Claim 9 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 9 is rewritten herein in independent form and includes all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening forms.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claim 9 is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims 5-7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b).

Claims 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sukimoto et al. JP 62152627.

Claim 7 is canceled herein, rendering the rejections thereagainst moot.

Claim 5 is rewritten herein to recite a towel dryer having an aluminum body, the body having an anodized surface configured to contact and transfer heat to a towel to be dried, the surface having a degree of reflectance not less than 80% (emphasis

added). Sukimoto et al. discloses a method for forming a reflective aluminum body, but does not disclose a towel dryer having an aluminum body with an anodized surface, the surface having a degree of reflectance not less than 80% as recited in rewritten claim 5.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 5 is respectfully requested. Claim 6 depends from allowable claim 5. Reconsideration and allowance of claim 6 are respectfully requested.

Claims 11 and 12.

Claims 11 and 12 have been rewritten herein to depend from allowable claim 5. Allowance of claims 11 and 12 is respectfully requested.

New Claims 13-16.

New claims 13-16 depend from allowable claim 5. Allowance of claims 13-16 is respectfully requested.

New Claims 17-21.

New claim 17 is an independent claim reciting a method of drying a towel that comprises the step of providing an aluminum body, the body having an anodized surface configured to contact and transfer heat to a towel to be dried, the surface having a degree of reflectance not less than 80%.

Claims 18-21 depend from claim 17.

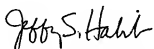
Allowance of claims 17-21 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

The application is now in condition for allowance. If questions remain, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to resolve same.

Respectfully submitted,

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